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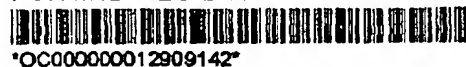
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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P.O. Box 1450
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/809,280	03/25/2004	James Gharib	80100.071US1

30328
NUVASIVE, INC.
10065 OLD GROVE ROAD
SAN DIEGO, CA 92131

CONFIRMATION NO. 6044

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000012909142

Date Mailed: 06/09/2004

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date GrantedItems Required To Avoid Abandonment:

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The statutory basic filing fee is missing.
Applicant must submit \$ 385 to complete the basic filing fee for a small entity.
- The oath or declaration is unsigned.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$65 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Replacement drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 and 37 CFR 1.121 are required. The drawings submitted are not acceptable because:
 - More than one figure is present and each figure is not labeled "Fig." with a consecutive Arabic numeral (1, 2, etc.) or an Arabic numeral and capital letter in the English alphabet (A, B, etc.)(see 37 CFR 1.84(u)(1)). See Figure(s) 23.
 - The drawings submitted to the Office are not electronically reproducible. Drawing sheets must be submitted on paper, which is flexible, strong, white, smooth, non-shiny, and durable (see 37 CFR 1.84(e)). See Figure(s) 20, 21, 24, 27.

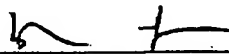
SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:

Total additional fee(s) required for this application is \$450 for a Small Entity

- \$385 Statutory basic filing fee.
- \$65 Late oath or declaration Surcharge.

Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

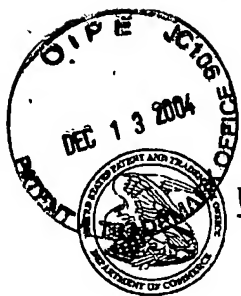


Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/809,280	03/25/2004	James Gharib	071US1

30328
 NU VASIVE, INC.
 10065 OLD GROVE ROAD
 SAN DIEGO, CA 92131

CONFIRMATION NO. 6044
 FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000013753226

Date Mailed: 09/08/2004

NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY (NONPROVISIONAL)

Filing Date Granted

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has received your reply on 08/16/2004 to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed 06/09/2004 and it has been entered into the nonprovisional application. The reply, however, does not include the following items required in the Notice.

The period of reply remains as set forth in the Notice. You may, however, obtain EXTENSIONS OF TIME under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a) accompanied by the appropriate fee (37 CFR 1.17(a)).

A complete reply must be timely filed to prevent ABANDONMENT of the above-identified application. Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

- The signature of the following inventor(s) is missing from the oath or declaration:
Jeffrey J. Blewett

Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.

Customer Service Center
 Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE



PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission



Application Number 10/809,280

Filing Date March 25, 2004

First Named Inventor James Gharib

Art Unit 3739

Examiner Name N/A

Attorney Docket Number 071US1

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	1. Executed Declaration
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	2. Return Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	NuVasive, Inc.		
Signature			
Printed name	Jonathan Spangler		
Date	December 9, 2004	Reg. No.	40,182

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature			
Typed or printed name	Jonathan Spangler	Date	December 9, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



PATENT
Application Serial No. 10/809,280
Attorney Ref. No. 071US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK

In re: Patent Application of)
James Gharib, et al.)
App. Ser. No. 10/809,280)
Filed: March 25, 2004)
For: SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR)
PERFORMING PROCEDURES)
AND ASSESSMENTS)
Group Art Unit: 3739)
Examiner: To be determined)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 9, 2004:

Signature:  Jonathan Spangler

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY/
NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

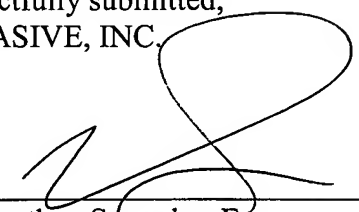
Dear Sir:

In response to a Notice of Incomplete Reply mailed on September 8, 2004 (concerning a response to a Notice to File Missing Parts mailed on June 9, 2004), having a two-month period for response that expired August 9, 2004, the applicant respectfully submits the following:

- (A) A copy of the Notice of Incomplete Reply (1 page);
- (B) A copy of the original Notice to File Missing Parts (2 pages);
- (C) A signed declaration by the legal representative for deceased inventor Jeffrey Blewett
as required by the Notice of Incomplete Reply/Notice to File Missing Parts (2 pages);
and
- (D) A petition for extension of time for 4 months (1 page and 1 copy).

Applicant hereby authorizes a payment of \$65.00 fee for the late filed declaration and \$795.00 fee for the extension of time, for a total of \$860.00. No other fees are deemed necessary at this time. However, in the event that there are any additional fees to be charged or payments to be credited, the applicant hereby request that any charges or credits be made to Deposit Account No.: 50-2040 for Customer No.: 30,328. In the event that there are any questions concerning the remarks above or the application in general, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,
NUVASIVE, INC.

By: 
Jonathan Spangler, Esq.
Registration No. 40,182

10065 Old Grove Road
San Diego, CA 92131
Tel.: (858) 243-0029

December 9, 2004